

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended) A hyperbaric capsule for use in maintaining hyperbaric gas pressure around a user located therein, in which capsule:

an elongate base molding forms a forward-facing chair for a user, the chair having a seat and a back rising from the seat,

said base molding has a front portion that extends forward of the chair seat at user foot level,

said base molding has a rear portion that extends upwardly above the back of the chair and above user head level,

said base molding defines a peripheral seal-line that extends around said front portion, along each side of the chair and around said rear portion,

an elongate canopy extends forward and downward from above user head level at said back portion of the base to said front portion of the base,

said canopy has a convex external surface that is curved both front-to-back and side-to-side,

an elongate transparent window is formed in said canopy, said window also has a convex outer external surface that is curved both front-to-back and side-to-side, and said window extends at least from user head level to the level of the seat of the chair, when the canopy is closed,

~~the~~said canopy is moveable between an open position, where a user can freely move to the chair from the side of the capsule, and a closed position where a seated user is fully enclosed by the base and the canopy, ~~and~~

said canopy defines a peripheral seal-line that is adapted to engage with said base seal-line to form an air-tight seal between the canopy and the base when the canopy is in the closed position,

latching means operable from both within and outside the capsule is provided for securing the canopy to the base when the canopy is in the closed position to permit pressurization of the capsule, and for releasing the canopy from the base for movement to the open position, said latching means comprising:

a plurality of latches spaced around said peripheral seal-line of the base,

_____ a plurality of latch pins spaced around said peripheral seal-line of the canopy for engagement by respective ones of said latches,

_____ inside actuator means operable from inside the capsule when the canopy is in the closed position to secure and release all said latches in unison, and

_____ outside actuator means operable from outside the capsule when the canopy is in the closed position to secure and release all said latches in unison,

_____ and wherein means are provided for supplying gas under pressure to the capsule and for maintaining hyperbaric pressure within the capsule, when the canopy is in the closed position.

2 (canceled)

3 (canceled)

4 (canceled)

5 (currently amended) A hyperbaric capsule according to claim ~~4~~1 wherein:
said latches include hook members moveable between a secure position in which said hook members engage respective ones of said latch pins when the canopy is in the closed position and a release position in which said members disengage said respective ones of said latch pins, and

_____ said hook members have an over-center action whereby an opening force applied to the canopy, when said hook members are in said secure position, acts to bias said hook members toward the secure position, thereby inhibiting operation of said inside and outside actuator means when the capsule is under pressure.

6 (original) A hyperbaric capsule according to claim 5 wherein:
the base has a first U-shape periphery which is generally horizontal and which defines a first portion of said base seal-line,
said first U-shape periphery extends from below the seat on each side of the chair and around said front portion of the base,
the base has a second U-shape periphery which is generally vertical and which defines a second portion of said base seal-line,
said second U-shape periphery is in the form of an inverted U that extends from below the seat on each side of the chair and over the back of the chair,
said first U-shape periphery and said second U-shape periphery join at a given angle below the seat, completing said base seal-line,
the canopy includes two opposed downwardly extending side portions of generally triangular form,
each side portion of the canopy forms a canopy angle that is substantially equal to said given angle, each side portion also defining portion of said canopy seal-line, and
the side portions of the canopy fit into said join of the first and second U-shape peripheries on each side of the capsule when the canopy is in the closed position.

7 (currently amended) A hyperbaric capsule according to claim 6 wherein:
said hook members are located externally of the base on each side thereof near the chair and near said join, and
respective ones of said latch pins are located on and externally of said side portions of the canopy and are arranged for engagement by said externally located hook members.

8 (currently amended) A hyperbaric capsule according to claim 7 wherein:
said externally located hook members are arranged in opposed pairs,
the hook members of each of said pairs are fixed to respective ends of a common substantially horizontal shaft that extends transversely through the base molding, the hook members of each pair being movable by rotation of their respective shaft to engage and release their respective latch pins on the side portions of the canopy, and
outward movement of the side portions of the canopy under pressure is resisted by abutment of the side portions with the hook members of a pair and tension within their respective shaft.

9 (currently amended) A hyperbaric capsule according to claim ~~6~~1, wherein,
the canopy is hingedly attached to the base so that, when the canopy is in the closed position, at least part of the side portions of the canopy lies inwards of said first and second U-shaped peripheries of the base on each side of the capsule, whereby outward movement of said side portions of the canopy under pressure is resisted by said first and second U-shaped peripheries of the base.

10 (canceled)

11 (previously presented) A hyperbaric capsule according to claim 1 wherein:

a pressure-operated lock is provided to prevent the opening of the canopy while there is super-atmospheric pressure within the capsule.

12 (currently amended) A hyperbaric capsule according to claim ~~6~~1 wherein:
said means for supplying gas under pressure to the capsule is adapted to supply cooled air to the capsule, and
control means are provided within the capsule adapted to indicate and/or regulate the temperature of the air supplied to the capsule.

13 (currently amended) A hyperbaric capsule according to claim ~~6~~1 having:
means adapted to monitor the CO₂ concentration of air within the capsule, and
alarm means connected to said monitoring means adapted to signal the user when a predetermined concentration of CO₂ is reached.

14 (original) A hyperbaric capsule according to claim 13 having: emergency release means operable to effect automatic depressurization of the capsule and release of said latching means when said predetermined concentration of CO₂ is reached.

15 (currently amended) A hyperbaric chamber according to claim ~~6~~1 having:
oxygen supply means adapted to supply oxygen gas at hyperbaric pressure to a user within the capsule, said oxygen supply means including a face mask by which oxygen enriched air can be supplied to a user seated and enclosed within the capsule.

16 (canceled)

17 (canceled)

18 (new) A hyperbaric capsule for use in maintaining hyperbaric gas pressure around a user located therein, in which capsule:

an elongate base molding forms a forward-facing chair for a user, the chair having a seat and a back rising from the seat,

said base molding has a front portion that extends forward of the chair seat at user foot level,

said base molding has a rear portion that extends upwardly above the back of the chair and above user head level,

said base molding defines a peripheral seal-line that extends around said front portion, along each side of the chair and around said rear portion,

an elongate canopy extends forward and downward from above user

head level at said back portion of the base to said front portion of the base,

an elongate transparent window is formed in said canopy,

said canopy is moveable between an open position, where a user can

freely move to the chair from the side of the capsule, and a closed position

where a seated user is fully enclosed by the base and the canopy,

said canopy defines a peripheral seal-line that is adapted to engage with said base seal-line to form an air-tight seal between the canopy and the base when the canopy is in the closed position,

means are provided for supplying gas under pressure to the capsule and for maintaining hyperbaric pressure within the capsule, when the canopy is in the closed position,

and a pressure-operated lock is provided to prevent the opening of the canopy while there is super-atmospheric pressure within the capsule.